



# INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TC8 (SHIPS & MARINE TECHNOLOGY)

MAY 1999

ISSUE NO. 3

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Since our last newsletter, Japan has been selected as our new Secretariat. Japan Marine Standards Association (JMSA) is the designated body and Mr. Ichiro Ogo is appointed as the new Secretary to ISO/TC8. We welcome JMSA and Mr. Ogo and look forward to a long and productive partnership.

Our pilot project for use of e-mail has matured. While serving as "acting secretariat", we have been able to communicate all of our documents with our members with the exception of LOT (Russian Federation).

In this newsletter we have included information from the OECD report on Regulatory Performance and International Standardization. It is felt that this information is important in view of our basic vision for TC8 to serve as the "linking instrument between IMO and the Industry." We are indeed fortunate that in the pursuit of our strategic vision we have achieved active and direct participation from IMO with ISO/TC8. This assures us that we can be truly sensitive to the requirements of IMO and can respond more quickly for the benefit of both industry and the IMO.

We completed our pilot project for developing Business Plans for ISO Technical Committees. Our formal Business Plan was approved on 1998-10-14. We have our chart and our course is set.

As a visiting professor to the World Maritime University, Malmo, Sweden, I will present "Strategic value of International Standards in world maritime trade" to future leaders in the shipping industry.

Our standards activity remains at an all time high; our relationship with CEN continues as excellent; and we have made contact with PASC who will be represented at our next plenary session in Japan (October 1999). As you read the news from the subcommittees you will see the clear evidence of their activity and of our sensitivity to IMO and the industry alike.

To insure that we continue to meet the needs of the market we must be ever mindful and vigilant of our commitment to the "timing and timeliness" of developing international maritime standards.

*charlie Piersall*

CAPT Charles H. Piersall  
Chairman  
TEL: +301-934-4655  
FAX: +301-934-5785

## GREETINGS FROM THE NEW SECRETARY

I would like to introduce the JMSA (Japan Marine Standards Association) as the new Secretariat of TC8 and myself as the Secretary of TC8. First of all, I would like to say many heartfelt thanks to NNI and Mr. vanElk for 50 year's contribution to TC8. We think this is the greatest service, because this 50 years is almost the entire life of TC8 which was created in 1947.

As the successor of NNI, Japan was offered and re-allocated the TC8 Secretariat in accordance with the ISO/TMB decision (Resolution 118-1998) in January of this year. It is our great pleasure for JMSA to assume the TC8 secretariat work and we must continue our service to TC8 as well as NNI has done for such a long time.

Secondly, I would like to introduce JMSA and myself. JMSA was established in 1969 under the approval of Japanese Ministry of Transport as a foundation and is the sole organization in Japan which deals with standardization work in the field of ships and marine technology. JMSA has been involved with ISO/TC8 since 1952 and ISO/TC188 since its establishment. Specifically after reorganization of TC8 in 1994, JMSA has also assumed the secretariat responsibility of SC6 (Navigation) and SC9 (General requirements). We have had two TC8 Plenary Meetings in Tokyo in the past. The Ministry of Transport has always taken care of JMSA for its increasing importance in relation to IMO. As the TC8 Secretary, I was nominated recently. I was born in 1944 and majored in Industrial Engineering at University. I have been working with JMSA for 26 years. During this period, I have been involved in the domestic drafting committees relating to shipbuilding and small craft industry and also I am a member of TC188 (Small Craft) Plenary Meeting. It is my great pleasure to join the TC8 community which has a time-honored tradition. I believe that my job as the TC8 Secretary is to perform in the aspect of administrative responsibility in TC8 operation.

Lastly, I would do my best as far as I can as the TC8 Secretary under the leadership of TC8 Chairman, Capt. Piersall and Mr. Abram (ISO/CS), but as I am not so accustomed to secretary work, no experience as yet, I would like to ask all members of TC8 to help me with your excellent experience and advice.

Ichiro Ogo  
Secretary, TC8

# NEWS FROM THE SUBCOMMITTEES

## All Subcommittees

For the 42nd meeting of IMO Subcommittee on Ship Design and Equipment (DE) in March 1999 ISO provided a listing of 20 standards in various stages of development, designated by ISO as items of mutual interest between ISO/TC8 and IMO/DE; 21 new work items being considered by TC8; 18 other ISO standards that may be of interest to IMO/DE; and 9 additional new work items being considered by TC8.

Additionally, ISO submitted a list of 16 published ISO standards to the IMO/DE on the subject of prevention of air pollution from ships for consideration by IMO in their development of "Guidelines Under MARPOL, Annex VI on Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships."

The ISO delegate to IMO/DE is the Secretary, TC8/SC3.

### SC1 Lifesaving and Fire Protection (USA)

SC1 continues its program with much success. CD 17339 on sea anchors for lifeboats and liferafts and CD 15736 on production testing of pyrotechnic lifesaving appliances are ready for ballot. CD 15735 on training of liferaft servicing technicians and format of servicing records is ready for formal DIS balloting. The CD 17631 on safety plans for fire protection, lifesaving appliances, and means of escape-arrangement will be a DIS to support the 44th session of IMO subcommittee on Fire Protection (FP). SC1 continues to work closely with IMO/FP and work is progressing well.

### SC 2 Marine Environment Protection (USA)

In keeping with the objective of developing standards that support the implementation of IMO requirements, CD 16165 on standard terminology relating to environmental response was submitted by ISO Central Secretariat to the IMO Marine Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC) for consideration and comment at their 42nd meeting in November 1998. This CD is now ready as a DIS. The Secretary of SC2 discussed this document and the ISO process with MEPC's Oil Pollution Prevention, Response and Cooperation (ORPC) Working Group.

The ORPC working group was concerned that standards were being considered and developed in the area of oil spill response without their input. They asked for more information regarding the ISO process and procedures, and to be kept informed of SC2's work program. The Secretary of SC2 will provide the ORPC working group with a summary of SC2 activities and plans.

SC2 has several other oil spill response standards under preparation and is reviewing all other areas of marine environment for relevant standards to satisfy market needs and IMO requirements.

The next meeting of SC2 is being hosted by Greece in June 1999. This is very good news as Greece is prominent in world shipping.

### SC6 Navigation (Japan)

Almost all draft ISO standards for navigational equipment, under the deliberation of ISO/TC8/SC6, contain the feature of being compatible with the performance standards of IMO's navigational equipment, specified by the IMO Subcommittee on Navigation (NAV). In addition, among these items, the following are being handled jointly under IEC/TC80 and ISO/TC8/SC6. Good cooperation between IEC/TC80 and ISO/TC8/SC6 with regard to these items has been maintained, and the consideration on the first draft is proceeding smoothly and efficiently.

Under these items, it is scheduled that international standards common to ISO and IEC will be published in the future.

The outline and the status of consideration are as follows:

a. ISO/TC8/SC6 is responsible for the following draft development. When considering the draft, the opinions of SC6 members and IEC/TC80 members are taken into account, and finally ISO/IEC standards will be developed. The related items and their work processes are as follows:

#### - ISO/DIS 11674: Heading control systems

At present, voting the draft as not only ISO/CD 11674, by ISO member bodies, but also IEC/CDV 11674, by IEC member bodies, is in progress.

#### - ISO/CD 16328: Gyro compasses for high-speed craft

The draft was amended on the basis of opinions about ISO/CD 16328 submitted by the various countries is in progress. The second ISO/CD 16329 is being circulated.

#### - ISO/WD 16273: Performance requirements for night vision equipment for high-speed craft.

It is intended that the draft will be submitted to IMO/NAV 45 to be held in September 1999 by the convener of SC6/WG5, Germany, as a reference material.

b. IEC/TC80 is responsible for the following draft development. When considering the draft, opinions of IEC/TC80 members and ISO/TC8/SC6 members are taken into account, and finally an IEC/ISO standard will be developed. The related item and its work processes are as follows:

#### - Draft IEC 62065: Track control systems

International meetings have been held several times so far to deliberate the Working Draft. The representatives of SC6 attended the international meetings for draft consideration so far. According to the convener's schedule of this matter, the draft will be fixed by this September and, consequently, the draft will be circulating to both IEC/TC80 and ISO/TC8 member bodies for the voting.

c. Others

#### - ISO/DIS 694: Positioning of magnetic compasses

In accordance with the amending of the diagram (Minimum distance from the standard magnetic compasses) on the on-board positioning of the standard compass provided by the diagram of ISO/DIS 694 discrepancies, the amendment proposal of IMO resolution A.382(X) was sent to IMO through ISO/CS dated on 1999-03-15 by the SC6 Secretary with the reason for the amendment proposal and the diagrams.

#### - ISO/DIS 9875: Marine echo-sounding equipment (Rev. of ISO 9875:1997)

The draft was amended on the basis of opinions about ISO/CD 9875 submitted by the various countries and the text of ISO/DIS 9875 was sent to ISO/CS for the TC8 members voting dated 1999-02-24.

#### - NWIP on Standard for the content, quality and updating of Electronic Chart System (ECS) database

This item as proposed by the U.S. was circulated to the member bodies of ISO/TC8/SC6 for its voting on 1999-03-23.

#### - NWIP on Searchlight for High Speed Craft

SC6 is planning to circulate the NWIP on "Searchlight for High Speed Craft" which are required on board HSC according to chapter 13, paragraph 13.9 of the International Code of Safety for High Speed Craft (HSC Code, resolution MSC.36(63)), proposed by Germany. Their proposal will be in SC6 members' hands by May of 1999.

## SC9 General Requirements (Japan)

The outline and consideration status of the ISO drafts now within ISO/TC 8/SC 9's work list are as follows:

a. **ISO/CD 15016** "Assessment of speed and power performance by means of speed trials"

The draft was deliberated on the various comments about first ISO/CD 15016 submitted by the member bodies of SC9. The second ISO/CD 15016 is now being prepared for circulation by the end of June. The decision on the circulation as ISO/DIS 15016 will be fixed at the TC8/SC9 meeting to be held in Tokyo on 1999-10-19.

b. As a related matter, SC9 is developing an ISO standard for "sea trials." This new work item is under a new WG4 with Mr. Falcao de Campos, Portugal as convener. This item is a result of Resolution 166 adopted at ISO/TC8 17th Plenary Session in Maldon, UK. This item is progressed under the Vienna Agreement with parallel approval under CEN lead and is in line with the ongoing work in CEN/TC300/WG1.

## NEWS FROM ISO TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT BOARD (TMB)

Recent Actions of the Board are provided below:

- **ISO template for Word 97**

A new automated template will soon join the set of ISO templates already available. This template, called STD, is optimized for the Office 97 Word version and works in a similar manner to the template for Word 6 and Word 95, i.e. ISOSTD30. The new template will be available for downloading from the *Standards Developers Information Site*, a new ISO Web site which opened at the end of March 1999; with the following URL: <http://www.ISO.ch/sdis>. The site can also be accessed via *ISO Outline*.

- **Standards Developers Information Site (SDIS)**

As mentioned above, the Central Secretariat has developed a public accessible website which comprises - as a single resource - all information and documents relevant for professional developers of ISO standards. The site contains basic reference documents and updated information on all ISO procedures for the development of ISO standards, rules for the drafting of standards and other practical and hands-on information, electronic versions of all editions of the TMB Communiqué, including the current one, can be found there. The URL of the site is <http://www.ISO.ch/sdis>. To enter the site, please click on "Log-in as guest" on the entry screen.

- **Closing Remarks**

ISO is in the process of re-building and improving its working methods and the means by which it achieves its objectives. It is of utmost importance, that we introduce a management approach which allows ISO to ensure that any proposal for new work and any ongoing project responds to needs in the market place. To make sure that market interests are fully reflected in the work programme of ISO committees, Business Plans are now introduced into ISO.

A training programme is under development which will provide comprehensive and up-to-date information in a modular form to committee officers and members of committees on all important issues related to the activities of ISO committees. The training modules will be accessible online from a website.

The Central Secretariat is also in the process of developing in a pilot project with a number of ISO committees an electronic working environment for the collaboration between members of committees and working groups.

All these and the other initiatives, on which we reported above, aim at ensuring the continuous relevance of ISO by meeting market needs and by increasing the speed of the development of International Standards.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FAREWELL TO GEOFF ALEXANDER

At the end of the TC8 meeting held in Maldon, Essex last year we said goodbye to Geoff Alexander as the UK representative on TC8. He has supported the work of the Technical Committee for many years and it is right that we should record his retirement and thank him for the work he has done.

Geoff was a tremendous asset to the Committee as a whole and particularly to the Advisory Group and Chairman in setting the course for the next century. Noted for his "action oriented" personality, Geoff was unique in his ability to "get things done." On many occasions he represented ISO/TC8 at IMO meetings.

A brief word on Geoff's long and illustrious career is perhaps worth mentioning.

A "Geordie" to use the English term, he was educated at King's School, Tynemouth right in the heart of the North East shipbuilding country and then undertook National service as a Military Policeman which accounts for his military bearing to this day. He has spent most of his working life in the UK marine industry, particularly in the anchor and chain section starting with a firm of Beal & Son Ltd, first in the office and ending up as its front man. He then left to work for the Balmoral Group in Aberdeen and in the 1990's was instrumental in assisting the German shackle manufacturer Feuerstein GMBH to grow into one of the large suppliers in the world. Concurrently, he was part of W.G. Readman Ltd of Middlesborough as a Director. He also worked within the British Marine Equipment Council from its beginnings in the 1960's up to the present day and he was seconded to the United Kingdom Government's Offshore Supplies Office Committee to help formulate Offshore Oil/Gas policy.

He was a strong supporter of the United Kingdom British Standards Institute Marine Equipment Committee (SME32) as well as TC8 for many years.

Outside work, his interests have been skiing and horse racing.

We wish him and his wife, Elizabeth, a long and happy retirement.

## SEMINAR ON STANDARDIZATION AT LISBON TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

The Portuguese sectorial body for shipbuilding standardization (AIM-Portuguese Association for Maritimes Industries) promoted last June, in cooperation with Lisbon Technical University, a seminar on the subject of standardization as strategic issue for business. The intent of this event was to draw the attention of the future naval engineers to the importance of the standards, namely the standards issued by ISO/TC8 for shipping and shipbuilding. The lectures were given by the Chairman of ISO/TC8, Capt. Charles Piersall, and by the Chairman of Danish TC for Shipbuilding, Mr. Van Dijk, to whom Professor Guedes Soares of the Lisbon Technical University expressed his gratitude.

# OECD REPORT ON REGULATORY REFORM AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

*The Working Party of the Trade Committee of OECD prepared this report which is available on the internet at <http://www.oecd.org/ech/tradedoc.html> . The reader is encouraged to read the entire report. The following paragraphs are a few highlights :*

- The leading players in the field of international standards share the perception that trade liberalisation has moved on from its earlier focus on tariffs, quotas, and related issues, and into the area of NTBs (non-tariff barriers); that standardisation forms a legitimate area of study in that context; and specifically that increasing attention needs to be devoted to making standards more relevant to the needs of trade and of the market. In the words of the president-elect of ISO: *standards should be economic instruments with technical content*. The attempt by OECD to contribute to that goal is broadly welcomed.

- The scope of this report covers not only voluntary texts (**standards stricto sensu**) but also standards that have been incorporated in texts with regulatory force (**technical regulations**). It considers only those with an identifiable link to products traded, where the goal of *one product, one test, accepted everywhere*, could be postulated.

- At government level, regulators adopt a range of approaches. In any given area, their work may 1) concern product standards, or conformity assessment, or both; 2) deal only with issues of the protection of the consumer or the worker or aim wider; 3) use any of a number of models for linking standards to regulations and 4) develop agreements either at multilateral level (in the WTO or other bodies), or bilaterally (e.g. USA/EU).

- The efficiency of the standardisation process in the established standards bodies is perceived as a particular area for attention. Today, that attention focuses on 1) the nature of the product line; 2) the depth and scope of the standards, and notably the distinction between criteria for end-performance and related testing and other descriptive specifications developed for the convenience of industry; 3) the inherent speed and complexity of the standards development process; 4) the implementation of adopted standards, since standards only have value if they are used; and 5) the ability to weed out obsolete or irrelevant texts.

- Past analysis from the trade policy perspective in the context of the OECD regulatory reform project has revealed that use of internationally harmonised standards is an important way to overcome national regulatory barriers. It has also been pointed out that the issue of the quality of international standards and the standardisation process is increasingly attracting the attention of policy-makers, and in some cases there is a recognised need for improvement. Such recognition led to one of the policy recommendations produced at the time of the 1997 Ministerial meeting:

*Develop and use wherever possible internationally harmonised standards as a basis for domestic regulations, while collaborating with other countries to review and improve international standards to assure that they continue to achieve intended policy goals efficiently and effectively.*

The paramount importance of ISO and IEC is illustrated by the central document in the Uruguay Round of the WTO which deals with this field: the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, or TBT Agreement, which at the global level represents the most wide-ranging

operational system yet developed for attacking technical barriers to trade. In this document, and notably in its Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards, it appears to accept that ISO and IEC are the dominant bodies in this field. It centralises with them the notification of acceptance of the code. Most of its definitions are taken from ISO/IEC documents. And where it deviates from ISO/IEC definitions - as it does on the question of whether standards can be regulatory instruments - it invents its own, rather than preferring those of another standards body. The same bodies dominate in the actual operation of the WTO TBT Agreement. The Agreement is overseen by a TBT Committee, with representatives from every WTO member, and which may grant observer status to international standards bodies.

- ***A history of linkage at national level: the traditional model***

- At national level, structural linkage between standardisation and regulation is not new. In many countries, national standards bodies have close, formal links with government authorities. In most cases, the national standards bodies are formally independent of government, although there are still some exceptions, where the national standards bodies are run as departments of government ministries. This model - in which strong linkage at national level is crucial, between standardisers and governments - can be called the traditional, or "ISO/IEC" model. Relevant features include:

- At the national level

- National standards bodies (NSBs) are generally formally independent of government, with heavy involvement of industry.

- National regulatory authorities and national standards bodies link their activities. Typical linkages oblige national governments to participate in standards development through their local NSBs, and inform those NSBs of regulatory needs. They also oblige the NSBs to take account of those regulatory needs in their standardisation work. These linkages are frequently underpinned by formal Memoranda of Understanding.

- At the international level:

- Regulatory authorities are automatically represented in international standardisation only through their participation in national standards activity. Beyond that, intergovernmental groups of regulatory authorities do not participate automatically in the development of international standards, although ISO has an optional "liaison" system which permits such groups to ask or to be invited to participate, and which is quite heavily used.

- Standardisers and industry have no direct right of representation in international groups of regulators developing technical regulations, and at their best their representation is limited to that of *observers*, or similar, as happens in the WTO TBT Committee.

In this model, the theory is that if, in every country, standardisation activity is linked smoothly to regulatory development, national standards bodies will reflect that linkage in their work at international level, in the international standards bodies.